

Claims

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new and desired to be secured by Letters Patent is as follows:

1 1. An interactive magnetic book and display system, comprising:

2 a display board;

3 a plurality of magnets positioned at predetermined locations beneath a top surface of
4 said display board;

5 a book having a story text imprinted therein and a first set of distinctive markings
6 positioned at predetermined locations in said story text;

7 a set of cards having a second set of distinctive markings imprinted on respective cards,
8 said second set of distinctive markings being associated with said first set of
9 distinctive markings, whereby an individual card from said set of cards is
10 positioned on said display board when one of said second set of distinctive
11 markings on said individual card corresponds to one of said first set of distinctive
12 markings encountered by a user while viewing said story text.

1 2. The system as in claim 1 wherein said book includes front and back covers,

2 said front and back covers including respective metallic elements positioned beneath
3 respective first surfaces and configured to be magnetically drawn to corresponding magnets
4 of said plurality of magnets in said display board.

1 3. The system as in claim 2 wherein said display board includes a book receiving
2 section in which said metallic elements of said front and back covers are magnetically drawn
3 to corresponding magnets of said plurality of magnets of said display board when positioned
4 on said book receiving section.

1 4. The system as in claim 1 wherein each of said set of cards includes:
2 a card first surface; and
3 a card metallic element positioned beneath said card first surface such that said card
4 metallic element is magnetically drawn to a corresponding magnet of said
5 plurality of magnets of said display board when positioned generally atop said
6 corresponding magnet.

1 5. The system as in claim 4 wherein said display board includes a card receiving
2 section in which a respective card metallic element of a respective card is magnetically drawn
3 to a corresponding magnet of said plurality of magnets said display board when positioned on
4 said card receiving section.

1 6. The system as in claim 1 wherein each of said set of cards includes a barcode
2 imprinted thereon; said system further comprising:
3 a central processing unit ("CPU");
4 means coupled to said CPU for communicating a selected barcode from a respective
5 card to said CPU; and
6 means in said CPU for processing said selected barcode and generating an output signal
7 corresponding to said selected barcode.

1 7. The system as in claim 1 wherein said set of cards are ordered such that said
2 second set of distinctive markings are encountered in the same order as said first set of
3 distinctive markings are encountered in said story text.

1 8. An interactive magnetic book and display system, comprising:
2 a display board having a book receiving section and at least one card receiving section,
3 said book and card receiving sections being separated from one another;
4 a plurality of magnets positioned beneath a top surface of said display board;
5 a book having a story text imprinted therein and a first set of distinctive markings
6 imprinted therein at predetermined locations in said story text;
7 wherein said book includes front and back covers having metallic elements positioned
8 beneath respective first surfaces thereof, said metallic elements being configured
9 to be magnetically drawn to corresponding magnets of said plurality of magnets
10 of said display board when said front and back covers are positioned on said book
11 receiving section; and
12 a set of cards having a second set of distinctive markings imprinted on respective cards,
13 said second set of distinctive markings corresponding to said first set of
14 distinctive markings, said set of cards being ordered such that said second set of
15 distinctive markings are encountered in the same order as said first set of
16 distinctive markings are encountered in said story text.

1 9. The system as in claim 8 wherein each of said set of cards includes:
2 a card first surface; and
3 a card metallic element positioned beneath said card first surface such that said card
4 metallic element is magnetically drawn to a corresponding magnet of said
5 plurality of magnets when said card metallic element is positioned within said
6 card receiving section of said display board.

1 10. The system as in claim 8 wherein each of said plurality of cards includes a
2 barcode imprinted thereon; said system further comprising:

3 a central processing unit (“CPU”);

4 means coupled to said CPU for communicating a selected barcode from a respective
5 card to said CPU; and

6 means in said CPU for processing said selected barcode and generating an output signal
7 corresponding to said selected barcode.

1 11. The system as in claim 8 wherein each of said plurality of magnets includes a
2 disk-shaped configuration.

1 12. A method for using an interactive book and card system, comprising:
2 providing a display board having a plurality of magnets positioned beneath a top
3 surface thereof;
4 providing a book having front and back covers with cover metallic elements positioned
5 within said front and back covers, said cover metallic elements being configured
6 to be magnetically drawn to respective magnets of said plurality of magnets when
7 said book is positioned on said display board, said book including a story text
8 imprinted therein with a first set of distinctive markings imprinted at
9 predetermined positions within said story text;
10 providing a set of cards and a second set of distinctive markings being imprinted upon
11 respective cards, each card having a card metallic element mounted beneath a
12 respective first side and adapted to be magnetically drawn to a corresponding
13 magnet when positioned on said display board;
14 viewing said story text until one of said first set of distinctive markings is encountered;
15 selecting a particular card from said set of cards having one of said second set of
16 distinctive markings corresponding to said one of said first set of distinctive
17 markings;
18 positioning a selected card from said set of cards upon said display board; and
19 repeating the steps of viewing, selecting, and positioning until said story text has been
20 completely viewed.

1 13. The method of using an interactive book and card system as in claim 12
2 wherein:
3 each of said plurality of magnets includes a disk-shaped configuration; and
4 each of said cover and card metallic elements include a disk-shaped configuration
5 complementary to said configuration of said each magnet.

1 14. The method of using an interactive book and card system as in claim 12
2 further comprising:
3 providing a computer having a central processing unit (CPU) and a database electrically
4 connected to said CPU for storing barcode data associated with a plurality of
5 predetermined output signals;
6 providing a plurality of barcodes imprinted individually upon said set of cards;
7 each card of said set of cards including a barcode imprinted thereon, providing means
8 for user selection of a respective barcode;
9 communicating said selected barcode to said CPU for processing; and
10 generating in said CPU a respective output signal corresponding to said selected
11 barcode.